

From the Assessors Office:

The town has hired its first full-time assessor. With the increase of building permits, home improvements, sub-divisions and getting ready to conduct a town-wide assessment update plus other activities the assessor is responsible for, he will be kept very busy.

The town has purchased new software (Vision Software) to conduct a state mandated assessment update for 2005. The new software will also enable the town to conduct updates for any year. The assessor will do all updates in house.

Late summer of 2005 the Vision assessment program will be on line. The public will be able to view all of the town's assessments at their convenience.

The assessor is now preparing for the town-wide 2005 update by visiting all recently sold properties in the town. He is attempting to inspect each sale property and asking important questions pertaining to the sale of the property.

2004 FINANCIAL REPORT OF THE ASSESSING OFFICE

ASSESSMENT VALUES:

A.	Total of Taxable Land		\$470,683,727
	Residential Land	\$448,551,241	
	Commercial/Industrial Land	\$ 20,852,306	
	Land in Current Use	\$ 1,265,034	
	Conservation Land	\$ 10,746	
B.	Total of Taxable Buildings		\$380,446,800
	Residential Buildings	\$347,434,150	
	Commercial/Industrial Buildings	\$ 26,077,150	
	Manufactured Housing	\$ 6,930,100	
C.	Total of Public Utilities		\$ 3,455,200
D.	Total of Exemptions		\$ 1,592,375
	Blind	\$ 45,000	
	Elderly	\$ 1,534,300	
	Alternative Energy Exemption	\$ 13,075	
	Veterans Tax Credit of \$500 (342)	\$ 171,000	
	Permanently disabled		

**NET VALUATION ON WHICH THE TAX RATE IS COMPUTED: \$852,993,352**

**5-YEAR TAX RATE HISTORY OF ALTON:**

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
TOWN:	4.74	4.60	4.59	4.41	4.36
COUNTY:	1.98	2.07	1.62	5.83	2.11
SCHOOL:	5.41	4.11	4.57	4.67	6.64
STATE:	6.57	4.45	1.83	1.93	3.88
TOTAL:	18.79	14.78	15.66	16.84	16.99
TAX RATIO:	83%	100%	81%	67%	undetermin.
TAX RATE:	15.59	14.78	15.66	16.84	16.99

Respectfully submitted:

Tom Sargent, Assessor C.N.H.A.

Kathy Currier, Assessing Assistant

Jan Coull, Secretary (part time)